



## PUBLIC DISCLOSURE COMMISSION

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **CIVIL PENALTIES ASSESSED AT ENFORCEMENT HEARING**

**Olympia** – Chair of the Public Disclosure Commission, Mike Connelly, ruled on Tuesday that **Bainbridge Parents for Better Parks** violated the state public disclosure laws by failing to timely register as a political committee and failure to file periodic campaign finance reports.

During a brief enforcement hearing held in Olympia, Connelly cited the political committee and its treasurer, Tom Hujar, for failure to register as a political committee until after the election, failure to timely file the 7-day pre-election C-4 report, the post-election disclosure reports, orders placed and in-kind contributions for consulting services. He assessed the political committee a civil penalty of \$250.

“Filing reports after the election is over frustrates the purpose of public disclosure”, Connelly said. “It is the public’s right to know who is financing these political campaigns.”

Every political committee within two weeks after its organization must register with the Commission and with the county auditor. Depending upon the reporting option selected, each political committee must also provide campaign finance information on contributions received and expenditures made by the political committee.

Connelly, in a separate hearing, found **Gwendolyn Grundei**, City Council Member in the City of Goldendale, in violation of state law for failure to file a Personal Financial Affairs Statement and assessed a civil penalty of \$500. Grundei has not filed a personal financial statement with the Commission since 1999 and was found in violation in 2000 and 2001.

Candidates and committees found in violation at the hearings will have an opportunity to ask the full, five-member Commission to review the action taken by the Chair.

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